

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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O 152229Z DEC 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 304323

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BDIS, BL

SUBJECT: PROTEBOL

REF: LA PAZ 9858

1. DEPARTMENT IS IN FULL AGREEMENT WITH THE ACTIONS TAKEN BY EMBASSY TO DATE IN THIS MATTER. WE DO NOT FEEL THAT THE EMBASSY SHOULD GO BEYOND THIS LEVEL OF INVOLVEMENT TO THE POINT OF ACTUAL PARTICIPATION IN DISCUSSIONS AMONG THE VARIOUS PARTIES TO THE DISPUTE. IN DEPARTMENT'S VIEW, EMBASSY ROLE OUTLINED IN JULY 28 LANDBERG LETTER TO BUSONY IS APPROPRIATE ONE; MISSION SHOULD CONTINUE TO PROVIDE SUCH FACILITATIVE SERVICES BUT NOT MOVE BEYOND THIS LEVEL OF ACTIVITY. WE HAVE INFORMED DR. BUSONY OF DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS ON THIS QUESTION, AND CONTINUE TO IMPRESS UPON HIM THE UTILITY OF HIRING LEGAL COUNSEL TO REPRESENT US STOCKHOLDERS' INTERESTS IN BOLIVIA.

2. ON THIS LATTER POINT, WE HAVE TRIED FOR PAST TWO DAYS TO CONTACT BUSONY, BUT WITHOUT SUCCESS. WHEN WE DO REACH HIM, DEPARTMENT WILL REITERATE ITS VIEW THAT PROMPT ACTION BY US STOCKHOLDERS IS REQUIRED IF SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION OF PROTEBOL'S STATUS IS TO BE ACHIEVED. SPECIFICALLY, WE
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WILL AGAIN RECOMMEND THAT HE RETAIN BOLIVIAN COUNSEL.

WE WILL ALSO URGE THAT US STOCKHOLDERS ENGAGE MORE ACTIVELY THAN HERETOFORE IN EFFORT TO FIND US FIRM WHICH COULD PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO GONZALEZ BROTHERS IN PRODUCTION OF BICYCLE TIRES. KISSINGER

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